

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 10/699,798

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth to cut a napped cloth having a single napped surface, comprising:

a cutting means for cutting the napped cloth by advancing a cutter through the napped surface, wherein the cutting means cuts the napped cloth by moving the cutter so that both Vy, a component of velocity in a direction wherein a blade of the cutter extends, and Vx, a component of velocity in a direction orthogonal to the direction wherein the blade of the cutter extends become larger than 0.

2 (canceled).

3 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein Vx/Vy , a ratio of the component of velocity Vx to the component of velocity Vy satisfies the following conditional expression:

$$0.5 < Vx/Vy < 2.0$$

4 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a fastener means to sandwich and fasten the napped cloth from both sides thereof during cutting of the napped cloth.

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5 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, further comprising a fastener means to sandwich and fasten the napped cloth from both sides thereof during cutting of the napped cloth.

6 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 3, further comprising a fastener means to sandwich and fasten the napped cloth from both sides thereof during cutting of the napped cloth.

7 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

8 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

9 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 3, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

10 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 4, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

11 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 5, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

12 (original): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 6, wherein the napped cloth is a light shielding cloth of a cassette for housing a photographic roll film.

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13 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein the cutting means cuts the napped cloth apart.

14 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein the cutting means cuts the napped cloth from one side of the napped cloth through to another side of the napped cloth.

15 (previously presented): A cutting machine for napped cloth to cut a napped cloth having a single napped surface which is formed by inweaving wefts over a plurality of warps in a lateral direction approximately orthogonal to the longitudinal direction by raising fabric in areas wherein the wefts stride over the plurality of warps, comprising:

a cutting means for cutting the napped cloth by advancing a cutter through the napped surface.

16 (new): A cutting machine for napped cloth as defined in Claim 1, wherein the direction wherein the blade of the cutter extends is substantially parallel to a cutting edge of the blade.